PLANT FACT SHEET

Canthium horridum Blume

GENUS *Canthium* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Thorny bramble

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves

The leaves (along with Cyclea barbata) are pounded into water to give a mucilage which is used as a sweet jelly, eaten cold.
Sweets are made from the yellow acid berries.

DESCRIPTION

A spiny shrub. It grows 2-3 m high. It can be a small tree. The young branches are slender. The leaves are opposite and narrowly oval. They are 2-3 cm long by 1-3 cm wide. They taper to the tip and are rounded at the base. The flowers are small and white. They occur singly or as 2 together in the axils of leaves. The fruit are fleshy and 2-3 cm across. They turn yellow as they ripen.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In southern China it grows at low elevations from sea level to 500 m above sea level. In Yunnan.

NOTES

There are about 200 Canthium species.

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